

60,130-1066
01MRA0154

REMARKS

In the Non-Final Office Action mailed on February 25, 2004, the Examiner reviewed claims 1-7, 9-15, 17 and 19-20. Claims 2-7, 9, 14, 15 and 17 were withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1 and 10-13 were allowed. The Examiner further rejected claims 19-21. Applicant believes that claims 1, 10-13 and newly amended claim 19 stand in condition for allowance. Applicant has cancelled claims 2-9, 14-18, 20 and 21.

Specification

Applicant has amended the specification to make the identification of elements consistent. No new matter has been added. Applicant thereby requests entry of this amendment.

Withdrawn Claims

The Examiner noted that the withdrawn claims depend from claims 1 and 13, which now include limitations drawn to a different species. The Examiner further indicated that the case cannot issue with these dependent claims still pending because the dependent claims now combine various embodiments in a form not disclosed. Applicant hereby cancels withdrawn claims 2-7, 9, 14, 15 and 17.

60,130-1066
01MRA0154

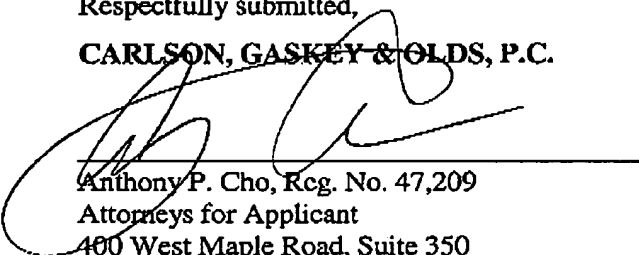
Claims Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejected claims 19-21 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Holzheimer* (5,303,907). Applicant has amended claim 19 to include the limitations of claim 21 and has cancelled claims 20 and 21. Applicant believes newly amended claim 19 stands in condition for allowance. Specifically, claim 19 requires in pertinent part, "said at least one passive structure has an inner layer of material and an outer layer of material, said inner layer of material softer than said outer layer of material to increase the level of stiffness of said stabilizer bar as said at least one passive structure axially twist." Applicant notes that *Holzheimer* does not disclose this feature. Indeed, there is no indication in *Holzheimer* that the axial twisting of any passive structure causes an increase in the level of stiffness of the stabilizer bar as a consequence of the inner layer and the outer layer identified by the Examiner. Accordingly, claim 19 stands in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.



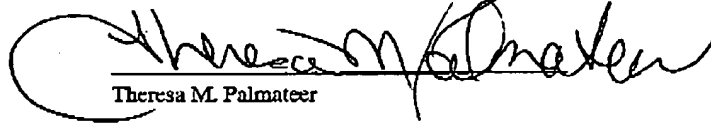
Anthony P. Cho, Reg. No. 47,209
Attorneys for Applicant
400 West Maple Road, Suite 350
Birmingham, Michigan 48009
(248) 988-8360

Dated: May 25, 2004

60,130-1066
01MRA0154

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (703) 872-9306) on May 25, 2004.


Theresa M. Palmateer

N:\Clients\MERITOR\IP01066\PATENT\Response 5-04.doc